

Application S/N 10/643,327
Amendment dated: February 13, 2007
Response to Office Action dated: October 18, 2006

CE11193/JI210 – Khawand

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-19 remain pending in the application. In the Office Action, the specification was objected to and claims 1-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph in view of the use of the term “exclusively” in the claims. In response, Applicants have deleted this term from the claims and respectfully request the Examiner to remove the objection and the 112 rejection.

Also in the Office Action, claims 1-3, 7-11, 15, 18 and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,912,716 to Johanson, et al. (Johanson) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,131,113 to Ellsworth, et al. (Ellsworth). Claims 4-6, 12-14, 16 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Johanson in view of Ellsworth and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,823,511 to McKenney, et al. (McKenney).

Independent claim 1 has been amended to clarify that the shared memory includes the transmit memories of both the first and second processors and that the first processor is a master processor that manages the shared memory. It is inherent, then, that the first processor manages the transmit memories of the first and second processors, as one of skill in the art would appreciate. Independent claims 11 and 15 have been similarly amended. Support for the amendments can be found on page 3, lines 3-9. No new matter has been added in view of these amendments.

Applicants submit that Johanson (or any other prior art reference) does not disclose such a feature. Johanson calls for a shared memory that is separated into three main portions: (1) a first processor to second processor fixed portion; (2) a second processor to first processor fixed portion; and (3) an unallocated dynamic portion (see col. 4, lines 8-11). The first processor has write access in an allocation starting at the

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bottom of the shared memory – or portion (1) above- and filling upwards, while the second processor has write access in an allocation starting at the top of the shared memory – portion (2) above – and filling downward (see col. 5, lines 13-18). Depending on the size of the message, either processor can dynamically allocate messages in the unallocated dynamic portion, with the first processor allocating from lower to higher addresses and the second processor in the opposite direction (see col. 4, lines 28-37). Both processors have read access to all portions of the shared memory (see col. 5, lines 18-21). Johanson goes on to describe one possible implementation in which the first processor has access to the dynamic unallocated portion, while the only way the second processor would be allowed to write to this unallocated portion is by requesting write access from the first processor (see col. 6, lines 44-50).

In view of this description, it is clear that neither the first processor nor the second processor is a master processor that manages the shared memory, i.e., a processor that completely manages the shared memory. In other words, while both processors may have read access to all the shared memory, neither has write access to both fixed portions of the shared memory. Even when one processor is designated as the controller of the unallocated portion, that processor still does not have write access (i.e., allocation) to the fixed portion assigned to the other processor.

In addition, as has been previously presented, Ellsworth does not describe the element of the first processor sending a message buffer pointer to the second processor that directs the second processor to the message buffer, which is recited in independent claims 1, 11 and 15. That is, in Ellsworth, the first processor blindly makes portions of the shared resource available to the second processor. For a more detailed

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explanation, please refer to Applicants' arguments in the Amendment of June 9, 2005 (pages 7-9).

In view of the above, Applicants believe that independent claims 1, 11 and 15 are patentable over the prior art. Applicants also believe that those claims that depend from these independent claims are now patentable, in view of both their dependence from these claims and their independent patentability. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of the claims is respectfully requested. Passing of this case is now believed to be in order, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

No amendment made was related to the statutory requirements of patentability unless expressly stated herein. No amendment made was for the purpose of narrowing the scope of any claim, unless Applicants have argued herein that such amendment was made to distinguish over a particular reference or combination of references. Moreover, it must be understood that the claims are not limited to the embodiments disclosed in the specification and that the reference numerals of the application that are used in the description above are merely intended to provide clarity to Applicants' arguments.

In the event that the Examiner deems the present application non-allowable, it is requested that the Examiner telephone the Applicants' attorney or agent at the number indicated below so that the prosecution of the present case may be advanced by the clarification of any continuing rejection.

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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any necessary fee, or credit
any overpayment, to Motorola, Inc. Deposit Account No. 50-2117.

Respectfully submitted,

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